

Senate OKs Ban on All Angola Funds

By JOSEPH VOLZ

Washington, Dec. 19 (News Bureau)—The Senate, after a long day of maneuvering and debate, voted 54 to 22 today to bar all funds for secret action in war-torn Angola. President Ford immediately condemned the action, warning that it would "seriously damage the national interest of the United States."

The Senate vote, which came on acceptance of Sen. John V. Tunney's amendment to the \$112.3 billion defense appropriations bill, represented the first time that the Senate has managed to call a halt to any major secret operation. The defense bill now goes to the House.

The way was cleared for the crucial vote when Republicans called off a filibuster about mid-afternoon, GOP senators then attempted to kill the Tunney amendment, but this was defeated 58 to 21.

The CIA has spent at least



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Shopping
Days to
Christmas

\$29 million in the last six months in Angola to help prop up the two anti-Soviet factions. Currently, another \$5 million to \$7 million is "in the pipeline" — that is, obligated or about to be spent.

But administration officials contend that this is hardly enough because the Soviet Union has already spent more than \$100 million over the same period.

The President was tight-lipped and unsmiling when he appeared in the White House press briefing room minutes after the Senate vote. He called the Senate decision "a deep tragedy for all countries whose security depends on the United States. Ultimately, it will profoundly affect the security of our country as well."

Administration officials con-

tend that the Soviet Union wants to open a major naval base in Angola, giving Moscow for the first time an Atlantic Ocean port.

Senate opponents, however, were fearful of another Vietnam-type involvement. They said that nationalism in Angola is so intense that the major powers will never be able to get a foothold.

"They didn't throw the Portuguese out after 500 years to let Russians come in," said Sen. Dick Clark (D-Iowa).

Sen. Clifford P. Case (R-N.J.), ranking Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said that the Soviet Union has "a consistent record of failure in Africa." He said there was little likelihood of Russian success now, even if all U.S. aid to Angola were ended.

But Ford, brushing aside Vietnam parallels, insisted that "the sole issue is the provision of modest amounts of assistance to oppose military intervention by two extra-continental powers, namely the Soviet Union and Cuba."

Echoing Secretary of State Kissinger's argument, Ford called the Senate action "an abdication of responsibility."

Ford added: "How can the United States, the greatest power in the world, take the position that the Soviet Union can operate with impunity many thousands of miles away with Cuban troops and massive amounts of military equipment while we refused any assistance to the majority of the local people who ask only for military equipment to defend themselves?"

Ford asked the Senate to reverse its stand, saying: "Failure to do so will seriously violate the interest of the United States."

NEWS BRIEFS

Blasts Ford & CIA On Missionaries

The United Church of Christ accused President Ford yesterday of encouraging the CIA to use American missionaries to gather information and carry out policy. It threatened a "head-on collision" between the administration and the country's 35 million Protestants if the policy isn't stopped, and said it would seek a court injunction if necessary.

The United Church reaction was provoked by a letter written last week by White House counsel Philip Buchen to Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.). In the letter Buchen said that the President favors continuing contact of the CIA with foreign clergy and American missionaries abroad.

—Marcia Kramer

A SENATE COMMITTEE

—has endorsed the appointment of George Bush as director of the Central Intelligence Agency, but not before the White House issued a Renunciation Proclamation ruling Bush out as a possible 1976 vice presidential nominee.

That and other "political" issues so obsessed the panel that it did no more than a lick-and-promise job of examining Bush's qualifications to head the CIA.

The CIA plays a vital role in assuring our national security, and is going through a trying period in which its external operations and internal morale have been severely damaged. It needs strong, firm, steady leadership.

We hope that Bush will be able to supply it. But we would be happier if the senators had concentrated on that point instead of running off on tangents.